

MINUTES OF THE  
HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE  
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008, 2:00 P.M.  
Room W020, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex

Members Present: Sen. Greg Bell, Co-Chair  
Rep. Kory M. Holdaway, Co-Chair  
Sen. Brent Goodfellow  
Rep. Mel Brown  
Rep. David Clark  
Rep. Brad Daw  
Rep. John Dougall  
Rep. Kay McIff  
Rep. Curt Webb  
Rep. Chris Johnson  
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss  
Rep. LaWanna "Lou" Shurtliff

Members Absent: Sen. Curtis Bramble  
Sen. Dan Eastman  
Rep. Ron Bigelow

Staff Present: Spencer Pratt, Senior Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
Karen C. Allred, Secretary

Public Speakers Present: Dave Buhler, Interim Commissioner, State Board of Regents  
Michael Young, President, University of Utah  
Cynthia Bioteau, President, Salt Lake Community College  
David Doty, Assistant Commissioner, USHE  
Sandra McIntyre, Prog. Dir., MWDL, Utah Academic Library Consortium  
Diana Graff, Dean, Library, Southern, Utah University, Utah Academic Library Consortium

A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

1. Call to Order—Committee Co-Chair Sen. Bell called the meeting to order at 2:12 pm
2. **Institutional Presentations:**

**State Board of Regents**

Dave Buhler, Interim Commissioner, USHE, distributed a handout to the committee. The Board of Regents has 18 members, all need to be residents of Utah. The Governor, with consent of the Senate appoints 15 of those members, one member is a student appointed by the Governor, and two are nonvoting members from the Board of Education. The Board of Regents was created by the Utah State Legislature in 1969 to provide a high quality, efficient, and economical public system of higher education through centralized direction and master planning. The role of the Board of Regents is to: appoint Presidents; create master plans for USHE, Capital Facilities & Campus, and Budget and Finance; institute missions and roles; approve programs; and oversee UHEAA and UESP. The Utah System of Higher Education's priority is "Building a Stronger State of Minds". This is accomplished by programs administered to enhance college preparedness, enhance college participation rates, and enhance college completion rates.

### **University of Utah**

Michael Young, President of the University of Utah, showed a short video introducing a faculty member who won a Nobel Prize. The University is only the seventh public university to have a Nobel Prize winner, Mario Capecchi. It is important to the university to hire individuals who are the best in their field. President Young expressed appreciation to the legislature for their confidence and support. The institutional priorities of the University of Utah is Management of Facilities, Respond to Critical Workforce and Student Retention and Engagement. The University has 300 buildings. In order to keep these buildings in good working order, the University is in need of funds for additional software and computer equipment, other equipment, new construction and utility usage. The University of Utah has critical shortages in its work force. The teacher, engineering, science & technology, and nursing initiatives are examples of how it is managing these shortages. For example, in order to have more nurses, more instructors are needed to create more nurses. To address the problem of student retention, the university proposes to add more academic advisors.

Questions from the committee concerning salary equity and salary increases were discussed. President Young feels that people could be hired for less pay, but it would be a disservice to the State of Utah. The State funds the basic operations, the line items, for the University, and the University uses non-state funding for research, and extra things (such as the hiring of a Nobel Prize winner). He sees the possibility of private supporters tightening their financial belts. A handout was given to the committee which shows salary equity of the Higher Education Institutions. This is a report that is conducted every other year. Another handout was distributed to the committee showing U of U Historical Trends of the Hospital Operating Margin, Private Support and Extramural Research Awards.

### **Salt Lake Community College**

Cynthia Bioteau, President of Salt Lake Community College, expressed thanks for helping a 60 year-old institution (in Sept.) keep its original mission of being a comprehensive community college. SLCC provides access to general education but its career and technical education is as strong as ever. President Bioteau introduced John Morgan, SLCC staff, who showed a video to the committee. Salt Lake Community College is a comprehensive community college with 14 sites and campuses throughout the Salt Lake and Tooele Valley, as well as on line instruction. It has many ways for people to get an education, such as: the traditional way as a full time student, partnerships with the school districts for high school students to have concurrent enrollment, facilities where adults can come for short-term education or training for no credit, learning English as a second language, and opportunities for training to take place at a business site for on-the-job training. It even has a Community Writing Center that anyone can use, even if they are not enrolled at the college. The institutional priorities are enhancement of programs for students success, accountability and work force development. Its goals for funding is to decrease the ratio of adjunct faculty to full-time faculty, invest in the academic infrastructure, and increase academic advisors to help support completion success.

### **3. Fleet Expansion (unfinished business from 1/24/08)**

Dr. Mark Spencer, Associate Commissioner, USHE, distributed a handout to the committee and explained that the committee needs to approve the list of vehicles added to each of the institutions' fleet of vehicles every year.

**MOTION:** Rep. Holdaway moved that the committee accept the expansion request for the Utah System of Higher Education.

The vote was unanimous.

4. **Salary equity and salary increases discussion.**

This agenda item was discussed above with the University of Utah presentation.

5. **Library Consortium (Issue Brief USHE -- 04)**

The Utah Academic Library Consortium is a nationally-recognized collaborative system with all nine USHE institutions, Brigham Young University and Westminster College. It allows all library resources, wherever they may be located, to be made available to all libraries in the system. The Analyst recommends that the committee put on its priority list \$500,00 in ongoing funds and \$2 million in one-time funding for the Academic Library Consortium for FY 2009.

Diana Graff, Dean, Library, Southern Utah University, Utah Academic Library Consortium and Sandra McIntyre, Program Director, MWDL, Utah Academic Library Consortium distributed a "Thank You" handout to the committee. Diana discussed that the libraries have banded together for efficiency purposes and that the funds will pay for on-line searches. Sandra discussed that the partnership extends to historical collections, art, etc., and is available freely on the web to everyone. They also reported that the one-time funds will be used for server space to hold collections, and people to do the "cataloguing".

6. **Educationally Disadvantaged (Issue Brief USHE -- 08)**

Each of the nine Utah System of Higher Education institutions has an Educationally Disadvantaged line item. The Analyst recommends the committee prioritize an increase in the funding to provide the institutions with the ability to expand their services to more students who qualify under the terms of the Educationally Disadvantage programs. A handout was distributed to the committee showing the Educationally Disadvantaged Programs in each institution.

7. **Emergency Management/Campus security (Issue Brief USHE -- 10)**

Due to the recent shooting on the campus of Virginia Tech, USHE institutions have looked carefully at their systems and abilities to respond to, if not prevent, such an event. The analyst recommends the committee prioritize \$4 million one time funds to put systems in place to deal with this type of situation. The one-time funds would be used for getting security measures started, such as better lighting, panic buttons, locks, alarms, first aid equipment, etc. A handout was distributed to the committee which gives an outline of emergency management possibilities.

8. **Capital Training Equipment (Issue Brief USHE -- 11)**

The Legislative Fiscal Analyst recommends the placement of a one-time appropriation of \$5,000,000 on the priority list for the purchase of current equipment and technology to provide students with up-to-date training and education opportunities.

9. **Health Care Professions Initiative (Issue Brief USHE -- 06)**

The Legislature has provided funding for the Nursing Initiative for several years to help resolve the shortage of RN's in the State. The Analyst recommends the committee place \$4 million on its priority list to help institutions expand their capacity in training health care professionals. The committee discussed that this recommendation would expand the Nursing Initiative, not replace it. A handout was distributed to the committee concerning this initiative.

**10. Science and Technology Initiative (Issue Brief USHE -- 07)**

The Legislature has funded the Engineering and Computer Science Initiative for a number of years . The Board of Regents has requested that this initiative be expanded to include other areas related to Science and Technology. The Legislative Fiscal Analyst recommends the committee prioritize \$2 million in ongoing funding for the Science and Technology Initiative plus \$5 million in one-time funding for the purchase of equipment. A hand-out was distributed to the committee concerning this recommendation.

**11. Report on Utah State Scholar Initiative**

Dave Buhler, Interim Commissioner, USHE, introduced David Doty, Assistant Commissioner, USHE. David Doty gave an overview of the Utah State Scholar Initiative. Because of the critical work force shortages in high skilled jobs, such as nursing and engineering, the high school graduates need to be better prepared for college. Utah doesn't require as much from its graduates as other states. A policy consideration is for the Legislature to adopt a more rigorous courses for graduation. This initiative hopes to motivate high school students, through scholarships, to take more rigorous courses and finish college in these areas of shortages. The funding of this will be used for staffing, travel, printing and training costs. This new scholarship (Regents' Scholarship) will mesh with the existing Century Scholarship.

**MOTION:** Rep. Shurtliff moved to adjourn.

Committee Co-Chair Sen. Bell adjourned the meeting at 4:25 pm.

Minutes were reported by Karen C. Allred, Secretary.

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Sen. Greg Bell, Committee Co-Chair

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Rep. Kory M. Holdaway, Committee Co-Chair